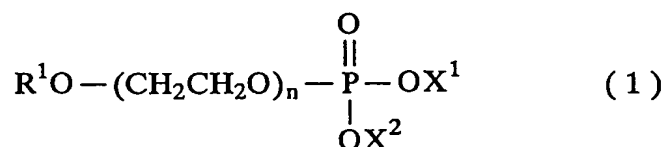


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

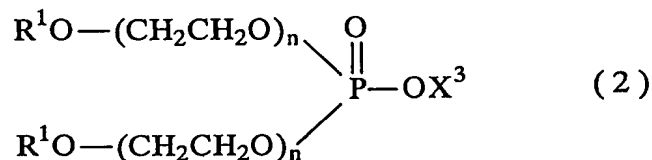
Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A cleanser composition which is weakly acidic and comprises the following components (a) and (b) in a (a)/(b) ratio of from 65/35 to 90/10 by weight:

(a) a phosphate monoester represented by the general formula (1) or a salt thereof:



wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents an alkyl or alkenyl group ~~containing~~ comprising 9 to 15 carbon atoms on average with a branching degree of 10% or more, X<sup>1</sup> and X<sup>2</sup> each represent a hydrogen atom or an alkali metal, and n is a number of 0 to 5 which refers to the number of ethylene oxide units added on average,

(b) a phosphate diester represented by the general formula (2) or a salt thereof:



wherein R<sup>1</sup> and n each have the same meaning as defined above, and X<sup>3</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an alkali metal.

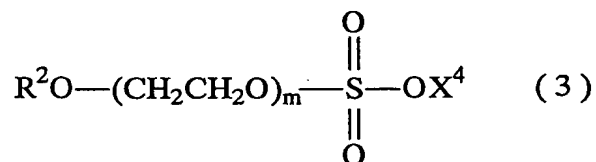
Claim 2 (Original): The cleanser composition according to claim 1, which exhibits a pH value of 4.5 to 6.5 upon dilution at a concentration of 5% by weight with deionized water.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The cleanser composition according to claim 1-~~or 2~~, wherein the total amount of the components (a) and (b) is 3 to 50% by weight.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The cleanser composition according to claim 1, which further comprises at least one co-surfactant, (referred to hereinafter as component (c),) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl ethoxylate sulfate, a betaine-type surfactant, a fatty acid or a salt thereof, an amine oxide, an isethionic acid-based surfactant, a sugar-based surfactant, an alkanol amide, an N-acylamino acid salt and an N-acyl-N-methyl taurine salt.

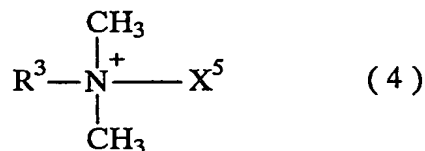
Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The cleanser composition according to claim 4, which further comprises, as said component (c), at least one member selected from the group consisting of ~~the following (c-1) to (c-9):~~

(c-1) an alkyl ethoxylate sulfate represented by the general formula (3):



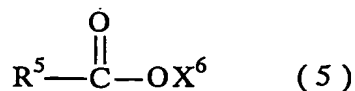
wherein  $\text{R}^2$  represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group ~~containing~~ comprising 10 to 18 carbon atoms on average,  $\text{X}^4$  represents an alkali metal, and m is a number of 0 to 10 indicating the number of ethylene oxide units added on average[.];

(c-2) a betaine-type surfactant represented by the general formula (4):



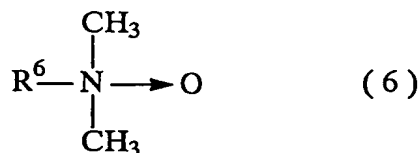
wherein  $\text{R}^3$  represents an alkyl or alkenyl group ~~containing~~ comprising 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average or an acyl amino alkyl group represented by the formula  $\text{R}^4\text{CONH}(\text{CH}_2)_a-$  whereupon  $\text{R}^4\text{CO}$  represents an acyl group ~~containing~~ comprising 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average and a is an integer of 2 to 4, and  $\text{X}^5$  represents a  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{CH}_2\text{SO}_3^-$  group or a  $-\text{CH}_2\text{COO}^-$  group[.];

(c-3) a fatty acid or a salt thereof represented by the general formula (5) :



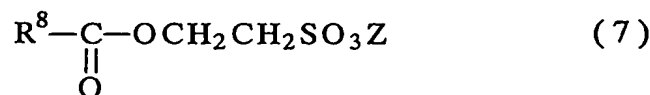
wherein  $\text{R}^5$  represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group ~~containing~~ comprising 9 to 17 carbon atoms on average, and  $\text{X}^6$  represents a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal,  $\text{NH}_4$  or alkanol ammonium[[]] ;

(c-4) an amine oxide represented by the general formula (6):



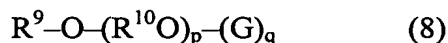
wherein  $\text{R}^6$  represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group ~~containing~~ comprising 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average or an acyl amino alkyl group represented by the formula  $\text{R}^7\text{CONH}(\text{CH}_2)_b-$  whereupon  $\text{R}^7\text{CO}$  represents an acyl group ~~containing~~ comprising 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average and  $b$  is an integer of 2 to 4[[]] ;

(c-5) an isethionic acid-based surfactant represented by the general formula (7):



wherein  $\text{R}^8$  represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group ~~containing~~ comprising 9 to 17 carbon atoms on average, and  $\text{Z}$  represents a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal,  $\text{NH}_4$  or alkanol ammonium[[]] ;

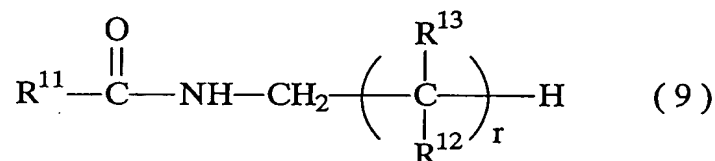
(c-6) a sugar-based surfactant represented by the general formula (8):



wherein  $\text{R}^9$  represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group ~~containing~~ comprising 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average,  $\text{R}^{10}$  represents an alkylene group ~~containing~~ comprising 2 to 4 carbon atoms,  $\text{G}$  represents a residue derived from a reducing sugar ~~containing~~ comprising 5 to 6 carbon atoms,  $p$  is a number of 0 to 10 indicating the number of alkylene oxide units

added on average, and q is a number of 1 to 10 indicating the average condensation degree of the reducing sugar[.];

(c-7) an alkanol amide represented by the general formula (9):



wherein  $\text{R}^{11}$  represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group ~~containing~~ comprising 7 to 17 carbon atoms on average,  $\text{R}^{12}$  represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group,  $\text{R}^{13}$  represents a hydroxyl group or a hydrogen atom, r is a number of 1 to 5, and  $(\text{R}^{12})_r$  groups and  $(\text{R}^{13})_r$  groups may be the same or different, respectively, provided that one of  $(\text{R}^{13})_r$  groups is a hydroxyl group[.];

(c-8) an N-acylamino acid salt having an acyl group ~~containing~~ comprising 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average, and

(c-9) an N-acyl-N-methyl taurine salt ~~having~~ comprising an acyl group ~~containing~~ comprising 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The cleanser composition according to claim 4 ~~or~~ 5, wherein the content of the component (c) is 0.5 to 20% by weight.

Claim 7 (New): The cleanser composition according to claim 2, wherein the total amount of the components (a) and (b) is 3 to 50% by weight.

Claim 8 (New): The cleanser composition according to claim 5, wherein the content of the component (c) is 0.5 to 20% by weight.